



NEWSLETTER

Central Kenilworth Avenue Revitalization Community Development Corporation
6801 Kenilworth Avenue, Suite 203, Riverdale Park, MD 20737

NOVEMBER 2020

Jeanette Mitchell - Design & Editing

GRC/ROCC Holiday Works-on-Paper Art Fundraiser



Greater Riverdale Cares is hosting an online art fundraiser that is featuring discounted artwork from local artists. All proceeds from the sale will go into the Greater Riverdale Cares/Route One Communities Care GoFundMe campaign. Artwork will be available for purchase until December 20th. Thirteen local artists donated more than 40 works of art to support families in need and neighboring restaurants.

Greater Riverdale Cares responds to the current economic and public health crisis in two ways: by providing healthy meals to the growing number of families in need in nearby communities in Prince George's County, and by supporting locally-owned restaurants struggling to survive.

Over the past year, through grants and donations, GRC/ROCC has provided over 10,000 meals from 10 participating restaurants to 12 distribution sites in Greater Riverdale, College Park, and Hyattsville. The demand continues to grow. Visit our web page to view the works on sale:

<https://go.dojiggy.io/grocroc>

If artwork is not on your list of things to purchase, how about making a donation? The three ways you can give can be found in the GRC/ROCC Update box on this page.

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GRC/ROCC UPDATE

FUNDS RAISED TO DATE:

\$64,897

As of 12/11/2020

There are three ways to give:

1) GoFundME:

www.gofundme.com/f/gofundmecomgreater-riverdale-cares

2) Our office:

CKAR CDC
6801 Kenilworth Avenue
Suite 203
Riverdale Park, MD 20737
[Note GRC or ROCC]

3) Our website:

www.ckarcdc.org

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



Real Trees Talk

by Dayanara Padilla, CKAR



Dayanara Padilla partnered with Abel from Defensores De La Cuenca to give Real Trees Talk to families at their annual Christmas celebration on Saturday, December 5th.

Defensores De La Cuenca is a local non-profit that teaches the Latino community how their local actions have an impact on the greater Anacostia River Watershed in Maryland. They held an outdoor Christmas celebration for the Latino community in Cheverly and at the end gave free Christmas trees to all the families that attended.

(Continued on page 4)

Amerigroup CKAR's Newest Partner

Amerigroup has partnered with CKAR and is making financial contributions that are going towards the schools and Greater Riverdale Cares GoFundMe initiative.

CKAR will purchase coats with 50% of the funds donated by Amerigroup for students at Riverdale, Glenridge, and Woodridge, and Templeton elementary schools. The remaining 50% will go into the GRC/ROCC GoFundMe campaign for warm meals.

We are grateful for the generosity of Amerigroup, especially in these times of hardship for so many families. Children whose parents are unable to provide coats for their youngsters will benefit from this fund.



An Anthem Company

OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES & COMMUNITY LEADERS



Rev. Gail Addison is an ardent supporter and partner of CKAR. She is the President/CEO of End Time Harvest Ministries, Incorporated (ETHM) located in Lanham, Maryland.



ETHM was founded in 1996 whose vision and charge is "Healing Communities by Healing our Youth". Reverend Addison advocates for at risk and underserved youth and their families. Reverend Addison's faith in God and her compassion for people fuels her tenacious pursuit of education, health, race, economic and social equity for all. As an "urban warrior", she willingly invests her time, God-given talents, and treasures in building and empowering youth to lead and impact the health and wealth of Port Towns and other Prince George's County communities.

For 24 years ETHM has strengthened families and continues to equip thousands of students and families with life skills by linking students' academic performance



GRC/ROCC TESTIMONIAL



"Thank you for the prepared meals today and for all you do for our community. Feedback was great and we received many messages of thanks. They love prepared meals. Have a great and safe Thanksgiving. You and your team are a blessing for so many."

Doug Jones,
St. Mark's Food Pantry



to experiential learning and community service.

Go to ETHM's website to learn more about their programs and services:

<https://www.ethm.org/>

Your financial support will go towards their continued success and is greatly needed. Click on the following link to donate now.

<https://www.ethm.org/donate/>



SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT

CKAR, LEDC, and PLCC/UMD have partnered to assist small businesses in Greater Riverdale. Representatives from these organizations are contacting business owners to inform them about this service that is available to them at no cost.

Small loans or grants are available to assist with getting advertising and other services needed to increase profits and grow their businesses.

Participating businesses receive a free consultation that will provide helpful information about how they can operate more efficiently and improve their profit margins.

Eight businesses in the Greater Riverdale communities are taking advantage of this free service. Those business owners are currently receiving support services from this program.

Interested: Call our office today to make an appointment, (240) 608-2527.



Celebrating Our COMMUNITY LEADERS



Pastor Michael S. Dickson, II (aka "Pastor Mike") is the Associate Pastor at Solid Rock Church on Good

Luck Road. While having served on staff for over twenty years, it has been within the last few years that he began to concentrate the church's effort to serve our community. These efforts began at Lamont Elementary, where the church donated \$10K worth of books to the school library. That effort was followed by working with Auburn Manor & New Carrollton Woods apartment complexes to staff neighborhood homework clubs for elementary and middle school students.

Pastor Dickson created other after school and summer programs with the Human Computer Interaction Lab (HCIL) of the University of Maryland (in partnership with Charles Carroll Middle School) called Science Everywhere as well as a mentoring program at Parkdale High School where he has served as the school Parent, Teacher, Student Association President.

Pastor Mike has assisted many students in accumulating their service hour graduation requirements through numerous service activities including painting the temporary classrooms at Beacon Heights & Riverdale Elementary Schools as well as William Wirt Middle School. Such projects are a reflection of his desire to see our community leverage the inherent gifts, talents, skills, and effort to uplift ourselves and our neighbors. You can keep up with what Pastor Mike is doing at metamorphosiscommunityproject.org.



Thank you Pastor Mike for Your service!

OTHER CKAR HAPPENINGS



**Rendering of the Future
Edmonston Road Rain Garden
5200 Edmonston Road
Hyattsville, MD**

Sarvis Café & Empowerment Center

Coming Soon!



DONATE NOW!

CKAR CDC is a non-profit organization; therefore, your donations are fully tax-deductible under current tax laws. Your donations go towards the cafe's renovation completion and are indeed needed. Make your donation now by clicking this link:

<https://app.etapestry.com/onlineforms/CentralKenilworthAvenueRevita/embeddonate.html>

WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR FREE SPRING 2021 TREE PLANTINGS

Large shade trees are available to residents and businesses in and around Riverdale, Riverdale Park, Eastpines, Templeton Knolls, Beacon Heights, Bladensburg, the Port Towns, Woodlawn, and Lanham communities.

Each tree recipient will also receive a home lighting kit consisting of light bulb assortment and power strip.

Primary benefits for having large shade trees:

- Increase your property value by up to 20%
- Increase business traffic and value
- Decrease storm-water runoff
- Help cool your community
- Encourage residents to engage in physical activity
- Increase immunity by exposing you to beneficial microbiota
- Improve mental health and lower stress
- Improve cognitive performance in children

CKAR is working towards creating a healthy environment for all of our communities. The above-bulleted list indicates how trees significantly contribute towards this goal.

"GROW GREEN WITH TREES" PROGRAM

OAKS, AMERICAN ELM, REDBUD, SWEETBAY MAGNOLIA, SERVICEBERRY, AND OTHERS



2020-2021

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ckarcdc.org



Real Tree Talk *(continued from page 1)*

During the event we had a nature scavenger hunt in Cheverly Town Park, warmed up by a fire, shared Tamales and Tacos with families to take home, and talked about the sustainable benefits of using real trees for Christmas.

Plastic trees have a much higher polluting footprint since they often get thrown away at the end of their use and usually are shipped across the country and world, contributing to pollution to our local waterways. A real Christmas tree on the other hand is generally bought locally and is sustainably grown for the purpose of being a Christmas tree. Buying a real tree also helps to support local businesses. The town of Cheverly even collects and recycles real trees at the end of the holiday season.

Dayanara talked with families about the added benefits of real trees in our daily environment. Trees help filter pollutants from entering our local rivers, which affects the greater Anacostia River Watershed and the water which then eventually ends up in the Chesapeake Bay. As for community benefits, trees help keep temperatures cool in the summer and shield from the wind in winter, as well as improve home value and business for commercial properties.



CKAR and Dayanara wishes to express our sincerest thanks to Abel for the opportunity to serve and present information about the benefits of live trees.



CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Building Maryland's Future by Connecting Communities

Utility Work on Riverdale Road

New: Beginning on or about December 7, 2020, crews will perform underground utility work on Kenilworth Avenue northbound and southbound from Riverdale Road (MD 410) to Rittenhouse Street, for approximately six weeks, weather permitting. Work may take place from 7 am to 4 pm Temporary lane closures with flaggers will occur.

Utility Work on River road

New: Beginning on or about December 7, 2020 crews will perform underground utility work on westbound River Road at Haig Drive for approximately two weeks, weather permitting. Work may take place from 7 am to 4 pm. Temporary lane closures will occur.

As work continues, we will strive to keep you informed of the progress of this project. For information on construction activities, schedules and other updates, please visit www.purplelinemd.com. For immediate construction concerns, please email us at outreach@purplelinemd.com or call (443) 451-3706.

All activities are subject to change due to traffic, weather, or emergency situations.

ONGOING COAT DRIVE AT AREA LOCAL SCHOOLS

Please call each school to get
DROP OFF DAYS AND TIMES

RIVERDALE ELEMENTARY -- (301) 985-1850

GLENRIDGE ELEMENTARY -- (301) 918-8740

WOODRIDGE ELEMENTARY -- (301) 918-8585